

Monitoring, Permit Coordination, and Other Special Support Programs:

CALFED Recommended Level of Funding: \$6,930,000
Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998: \$3,043,255
Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998: \$1,234,792

- 1) **Project Title:** Integrated Phasing Strategy
- CALFED Recommended Level of Funding: \$4,847,000
Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998: \$1,720,595
Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998: \$955,610
Funding provided to: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Project Description: In order to restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem using adaptive management, a logical set of priorities must be established based on the current understanding of the system. Actions need to be selected to address these priorities and the results of these actions need to be evaluated to refine priorities in future years. The Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (ERPP) is the “common element” to all alternatives being considered in the Programmatic EIS. A strategy for phased implementation of the ERPP needs to be developed to lay out these priorities and identify the near-term restoration actions to address them. The strategy for phased implementation of ecosystem restoration activities is described in the ERPP, essential to the conservation strategy being developed to comply with the Endangered Species Act, and the basis for setting funding priorities for near-term restoration in the guidance document. The phased implementation strategy will require technical input on three levels including:

- a) additional technical assistance at the staff level;
- b) establishment of a standing science panel composed of independent scientists and local stakeholder, agency, and independent specialists; and
- c) a panel of scientists (without local stakeholder, agency, or other independent specialists).

First Quarter Accomplishments:

CALFED program staff has completed the Strategic Plan for the Ecosystem Restoration Program. The interagency conservation strategy team is continuing to develop an ecosystem/habitat based biological assessment for the Federal Endangered Species Act, Section 7 requirements and a programmatic Natural Community Conservation Program (NCCP) plan for California’s NCCP Act, Section 2835 requirements.

- 2) **Program Title:** Comprehensive, Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program¹ (CMARP)
- CALFED Recommended Level of Funding: \$1,157,000
Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998: \$1,110,700
Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998: \$215,760
Funding provided to: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

¹ This program was formally titled the Comprehensive and Coordinated, Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program (CCMARP).

Project Description: The Interagency Ecological Program (IEP) and the San Francisco Estuary Institute will work with the CALFED program staff and stakeholders to develop CMARP for the Bay-Delta and its watershed. CMARP will include a structure and process for integrated data management, data analysis, and reporting. Monitoring elements for near-term ecosystem restoration need to be integrated with CMARP so that restoration proposals contain monitoring elements to determine whether stated objectives have been met and to provide guidance for assessing future restoration needs. This special support program will fund a portion of a system which does the following: reviews monitoring, assessment, and reporting plans prior to implementation; standardizes data collection methodology, format, and storage; and reviews, evaluates, and circulates results to all interested parties. In our January 16, 1998, request, funding was approved to develop the basic framework which is now in draft form. This funding will be used to begin implementation of CMARP once the framework is complete. CMARP will incorporate data from the IEP, the Central Valley Project, the Comprehensive Assessment Monitoring Program (CAMP), and data provided by the San Francisco Estuary Institute. CMARP will include a structure and process for integrated data management, data analysis, and reporting. Monitoring elements for near-term ecosystem restoration need to be integrated with CMARP so that restoration proposals contain monitoring elements to determine whether stated objectives have been met and to provide guidance for assessing future restoration needs. Funding recipients include the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, and CALFED program staff.

First Quarter Accomplishments:

A conceptual mode workshop was convened to explore the basis for developing and subsequently utilizing conceptual models for resource management. A preliminary draft report entitled "Recommendations for the Implementation and Continued Refinement of a Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment and Research Program" has been completed and distributed. Based on comments received a final draft is in preparation and will be available for public distribution by the middle of January 1999. After a public review period, a final report will be developed and distributed to the CALFED Policy Group for their acceptance.

3) **Program Title:** Bay-Delta Education Program

Status of the Proposal Solicitation Package of May 8, 1998 (PSP)

CALFED Recommended Level of Funding:	\$460,000
Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998:	\$386
Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998:	\$386

Funding provided to: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Project Description: Building public understanding of efforts to restore the Bay-Delta ecosystem is critical to the success of these efforts. Many of the concepts in habitat restoration are new and innovative and there is the need to increase public understanding to increase acceptance and facilitate implementation. This program will provide support for educational programs such as Adopt-a-Watershed. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will most likely work with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to develop the most effective

program. The following table of projects are included within the Bay-Delta Education Program.

First Quarter Accomplishments:

Began agreement negotiations with eleven project proponents as follows -

Project	Recommended Funding Level	Funding Recipient (Project proponent)
San Joaquin Valley's "Salmonids in the Classroom" Program Enhancement	\$3,000	California Department of Fish and Game
Traveling Film Festival/Heron Booth/Video Archive	54,000	Independent Documentary Group
Environmental Agriculture Conferences and Field Tours	28,000	Committee for Sustainable Agriculture
Sacramento River Headwaters to the Ocean, Public Information and Education	49,640	Sacramento River Discovery Center
Discover the Flyway	49,000	Yolo Basin Foundation
The Butte Creek Watershed Educational Workshops and Field Tours Series	33,000	California State University, Chico
Bay-Delta Environmental Restoration Education Program	40,000	Water Education Foundation
The Virtual Science Center and Hands-on Learning Programs	42,000	The Delta Science Center at Big Break

Project	Recommended Funding Level	Funding Recipient (Project proponent)
Water Hyacinth Education Program	9,600	Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
Water Challenge 2010	64,500	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Tuolumne River Natural Resources Program	44,700	City of Modesto
Technical Review and Quality Control	42,560	U.S. Forest Service
TOTAL PENDING AGREEMENT	\$460,000	

CALFED agencies requested an additional \$160,000 in funding on December 4, 1998² (including a request by Reclamation for \$40,000 in funding to cover program administration by the USFS) .

4) **Project Title:** Coordinated Permitting

CALFED Recommended Level of Funding: \$282,000

Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998: \$100,000

Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998: \$0

Funding provided to: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Project Description: Facilitation of timely review and necessary action on permits will be required for implementation of near-term ecosystem restoration projects. This effort will also lay the groundwork for a coordinated approach on permit coordination for the eventual implementation of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program (CALFED Program).

First Quarter Accomplishments:

Provided assistance to recipients regarding permit and environmental documentation requirements and lead agency designation. Preparation is continuing on a Draft biological assessment to assist in the initiation of a programmatic consultation for early ecosystem restoration activities obtaining U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 404/401 permits. Completion of the draft biological assessment is scheduled for February 1999.

5) **Program Title:** Development of a Watershed Management Program

² Approval of the December 4, 1998, request was provided by the Secretary's office on January 6, 1999.

CALFED Recommended Level of Funding:	\$184,000
Total Funds Obligated Through December 31, 1998:	\$111,574
Total Funds Expended Through December 31, 1998:	\$63,036
Funding provided to: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation	

Project Description: Successful and durable solutions to complex water quality problems which affect environmental resources are best approached from the perspective of an entire watershed. Through this approach, local pollution prevention and control activities are coordinated with similar activities to enable a concerted effort to alleviate ecosystem and water quality problems. Coordination of these efforts also results in the exchange of information, sharing of experiences, and development of more efficient solutions. Reclamation is working with CALFED Program Staff and will provide funding per CALFED Program Staff's direction.

First Quarter Accomplishments:

The Watershed Program, working with Bay-Delta Advisory Council's (BDAC) Watershed Work Group (WWG) and the Interagency Watershed Advisory Team (IWAT) has completed a revised version of the Watershed Program Plan. The program plan contains refined program goals and objectives, lays out a set of driving program principles, describes five primary program elements, and identifies 11 key implementation actions. The five primary program elements and the 11 key implementation actions are as follows:

Five Primary Program Elements

- Facilitate and improve coordination and assistance among government agencies, other organizations, and local watershed groups
- Adaptive management and monitoring
- Education and community outreach
- Integration with other CALFED programs
- Defining and describing watershed processes and relationships

Eleven Program Actions

- Fund and implement watershed restoration maintenance, conservation and monitoring activities
- Identify priority locations and implement watershed restoration efforts
- Assist local watershed groups and government agencies to address common issues, to ensure effective communication and implementation among government agencies and stakeholders
- Develop and implement a funding process to build community capacity and insure participation of local landowners
- Improve the use and usefulness of existing and future watershed clearinghouse functions
- Ensure the completion of project level environmental documentation and permitting
- Evaluate the benefits that accrue from watershed management activities designed to achieve CALFED goals and objectives
- Establish, fund and maintain watershed restoration, and maintenance assistance to aid local watershed groups and private landowners with project concept, design, and implementation
- Coordinate with other CALFED and Non-CALFED programs on watershed related activities.
- Work with stakeholders to develop state-wide umbrella watershed legislation
- With the consent of owners perform reoperation analysis for small hydro facilities to benefit local and downstream water users, water quality and the environment

The revised draft also outlines an implementation strategy. This work was accomplished in part by hosting four IWAT meetings and by providing staff support to three watershed workgroup meetings. The Program also worked closely with Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program's (CMARP) watershed team to develop the draft monitoring plan for the watershed program.